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FRANK L. HOOGSMANAGER

THURSDAYJUNE 27, 1907

Plan To Reach Harmful Trusts

A new plan for amending the anti-trust law was presented to the President recently by Francis B. Loomis, formerly assistant secretary of state. Mr. Loomis is not the author of the plan, but John R. Dos Passos of New York, who is regarded as an authority on corporation law. The essence of the plan is a radical change in the present anti-trust law. It aims to restrain only corporations and combinations that are harmful to the public, and does not make the mere fact of combination and monopoly unlawful. It also puts the power to proceed against any combination into the hands of any citizen where the district attorney fails to refuse to act, and makes the jury that tries the case judge of whether or not the combination has been proven harmful or oppressive. The proposition provides that the district attorney shall proceed in the court against any corporation that in his opinion needs prosecution.

The jury, from the evidence presented, decides whether the combination is harmful. A penalty of fine and imprisonment is provided with the power of the court to force a dissolution of the combination.

If the district attorney fails or refuses to act, any individual citizen through his own attorney can bring the same sort of a prosecution against the alleged trust, which can be served with papers and compelled to return an answer within twenty days.

It would require an act of Congress to amend the anti-trust law and put the new procedure into effect, but it is claimed by the author that the prosecution would effect what the law now aims at but is not framed to reach, namely, the elimination of the harmful trusts without touching those that are really helpful to business by cheapening production through combination.

Montana Passed Some Queer Laws

The laws passed by the last Legislature of Montana have been issued in book form, and it is the opinion of lawyers and others that never before did a Legislature have so many careless authors and incompetent enrolling and engrossing clerks. The result is that Montana has some of the most ludicrous laws that ever graced a statute book.

In fact so numerous are the errors that the Secretary of State was impelled to put this notice on the fly leaf: "The within are the exact copies of the enrolled laws as the same reached this office, and neither this office nor the printers employed in the work is responsible for spelling or punctuation."

The effect, it is thought, will not be serious, as the Supreme Court in passing upon the laws tries to determine the intent of the Legislature. One law was passed to prevent the sale of diseased meat, while the enrolled and engrossed copies thereof read "deceased meat." Thus, literally speaking, it is against the law for butchers to sell meats except upon the hoof, and if they obeyed it they would be compelled to drive cattle around to purchasers and dispose of them while alive.

A bill was passed relative to the measurement of hay. It provides certain rules for determining the amount "when it has been in the stack six months, provided it has been to the stack three months." The intention of the Legislature was to make allowance for shrinkage after the hay had stood three to six months. Still another law requires boarding houses, restaurants and hotels using adulterated foods "not" to post notices in plain sight of patrons and customers, when its intention was just the opposite. Another law, dealing with the land question, refers to "parented" instead of patented lands.

Hawaii's Trade Is Increasing

Trade of the United States with its noncontiguous territories will aggregate nearly 150 million dollars in the fiscal year which ends with the present month, against less than 100 millions in 1903, the first year for which complete figures of trade with all the noncontiguous territories are available. Prior to 1903 no official figures of trade with Alaska were reported to the Bureau of Statistics, and therefore a complete picture of trade with the entire noncontiguous area now under the flag of the United States can only be given for the term 1903-1907. During that period the shipments from the United States to its noncontiguous territory have increased about 90 per cent and the receipts of merchandise from them have increased about 25 per cent. Comparing the ten months of the present fiscal year for which figures are now available with the corresponding period of 1903, the first year for which complete figures can be had, the growth in shipments to the entire noncontiguous territory of the United States has been from \$20,520,068 to \$55,149,243, an increase of 86.76 per cent, while shipments to foreign countries were increasing but 31.4 per cent. During the same period the merchandise sent from the noncontiguous territories to the United States has increased from \$48,250,099 to \$59,693,323, an increase of 23.7 per cent, while merchandise received from foreign countries was increasing 38.2 per cent.

The growth in shipments from the United States to its noncontiguous territories has been more rapid, measured in values, than that in shipments from those territories to the United States, this fact being due, in the shipments to the islands, to increased requirements for railway construction, plantation development, etc., and in the shipments from the islands to the recent fall in the price of sugar, a staple article of shipment from Hawaii and Porto Rico to continental United States. The value of shipments from Hawaii to the United States was in the ten months of 1905 nearly 25 million dollars and in the corresponding period of 1907 but 21½ millions, this decrease being due to a reduction in the price of sugar, the chief article sent from that territory to the United States, rather than to any decrease in quantity. In the ten months of 1905 the 580,940,402 pounds of sugar shipped from Hawaii to the United States were valued at \$24,115,252, while the 605,431,431 pounds of sugar shipped in the same period of 1907 were valued at \$20,282,387, an actual increase of 24 millions pounds, but a decrease of nearly 4 million dollars in value. In the case of Porto Rico, the shipments of sugar to the United States amounted in the ten months of 1905 to 199,867,093 pounds, valued at \$8,790,921, and in the corresponding months of 1907 amounted to 298,918,649 pounds, shipped from Hawaii to the United States in the ten months of 1905 was 4.15 cents

Tales Worth Telling

SAFE.
In a certain court in New York permission had been demanded by one of the attorneys to introduce the testimony of a couple of witnesses who had not been duly cited.

"Do you suppose," suggested the wily Judge, "that they will materially assist us in getting at the facts?"

"I think so," answered the attorney. "I have not had an opportunity to communicate with them."

An audible smile ran around the court room.

"In that case, let them be called at once!" exclaimed his Honor. And the smile grew in volume.

PUBLIC OFFICE.
"Well, Moses," began the Senator, as a grinning Southern dandy was ushered into his presence at Washington. "What brings you here?"

"Mars Joe," replied Moses, "I've got 'portant business, sah, I want er office."

"You want an office? Why, what can you do?"

"Do, Mars Joe? What does everybody do that gets er office? Bless yer heart, Mars Joe, yer don't un'stand ole Moses. I ain't lookin' fer work, sah; I only want er office."

WANTED TO GO HOME.

M. Deverne was waiting at a station in Ireland for his train. Two Irishmen entered and engaged in the following conversation:

"Sure, Pat, it's down to Kilmarly I've been, on me way back now to Kil Patrick."

"Arrah, musha, Mike, it's meself that just after coming from being down to Kil-Kenny, stopped a bit before I go down to Kil-Moore."

"I say, Pat, let us take the day and go down to Kil-Moore."

"Ye gods," exclaimed the Frenchman "what assassins. Would that I were back in France."

A MISUNDERSTANDING.

At the breakfast table in one of the mining towns the landlady gave Mr. Muggins a severe look and said:

"Mr. Muggins, I understand that you have been circulating injurious reports about my house."

"How, madam?"

"I understand that you said you had used better butter than I have here to grease wagons with."

"I did say so, madam, but not to injure your house. I have used better butter, madam, to grease wagons, but I wouldn't do it again. I'd sell it to you."

A STORY OF A THIRSTY CAT.

"Perhaps you think the old water-in-the-milk joke has been worked to death, but I've found a new variation of it," said a Baltimore man. "You know I have a small negro girl as a nurse for my children, and one of her duties is to tell stories to the kids just before bedtime. They always listen intently to what she says and last night I decided to listen, to. This is what I heard:

"An' de cat, she got thirsty, an' she got thirstier an' mo' thirsty, an' finally she went to a pan ob milk sittin' in de pantry to get a drink ob watah!"

"I told the story to our milkman this morning and he didn't laugh at all."

BOUND TO TELL.

At a dinner party the little son of the host and hostess was allowed to come down to dessert. Having had what his mother considered a sufficiency of fruit, he was told he must not have any more when, to the surprise of every one of the guests, he exclaimed:

"A fresh supply was at once given him, and as soon as it was finished he repeated his threat. Whereupon he was suddenly and swiftly removed from the room, but he had just time to convulse the company by exclaiming:

"My new trousers are made out of ma's old bedroom curtains."

Fine Job Printing, Star Office.

and in 1907 3.35 cents; and of that shipped from Porto Rico to the United States in 1905, 4.44 cents, and in 1907, 3.59 cents.

To Hawaii the shipments during the ten months of 1907 were valued at 11½ million dollars, against 9 millions in the same months of 1903, and the shipments from that territory to the United States amounted to 21½ million dollars in the ten months of 1907, against 18½ millions in the same months of 1903.

WING SHOTS.

Capt. Hobson has been reading some old newspaper files on the Japanese situation.

Secretary Taft of the United States, too big a man for Ohio, will yet prove the favorite son of each of the forty-five.

Mayor Schmitz appears to be elected to a long term.

It is pretty rough on the late King David to offer his case as a precedent to encourage Orchard.

Oklahoma may elect a sightless United States senator, but the kind we really need would be speechless.

J. J. Hill says the government must loan money to the railroads and will eventually own them. Comes to same conclusion as Bryan.

The street cleaning department is helping to prove the unity of city and country. Both begin to wish for rain

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conviction of a scrub woman for stealing a cake of soap.

There will be fifty-three Sundays this year to make the new lid more noticeable.

Pennsylvania politicians show that they understand the situation, by giving it out that Penrose is secretly opposed to the Knox boom.

There is a movement on foot in London to suppress unnecessary noises in business establishments. One of the first fruits should be a quiet, unobtrusive boiler factory.

The census bureau reports that the coal production in 1906 amounted to 414,039,581 short tons. And some of them were short at least 600 pounds.

They say Roosevelt never uses any stronger swear word than "By George!" but he has caused divers others to use language of a far bluer tinge.

In the matrimonial line, the Idaho Orchard seems to have produced a good many pairs.

Harry Orchard didn't know that the glasses used generally by soldiers are worn below the nose and not upon it.

The shooting done by the women of late prompts search for another missing joy. What has become of the old-

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